

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Application Number 09/701,634

REMARKS

In the present Amendment, Applicants propose to amend claims 1, 3, and 5.

Claim 1 is proposed to be amended to explicitly recite a step of forming a spectacle lens. In addition, Applicants propose to amend claim 1 to expressly recite, in Markush form, a polishing, dyeing or coating step after the marking step. Support for these amendments may be found, for example, at page 12, lines 5-14 and page 21, line 12 - page 25, line 20.

Applicants propose to amend claim 3 to change its dependency and to address the Examiner's concerns under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicants propose to amend claim 5 to change its dependency, to be consistent with claim 1 as amended, and to expressly recite that the production information is cut off in the edging step.

Further, Applicants propose to add new claims 11 and 12. Claim 11 depends from claim 3 and recites that the edging line is 1 mm larger than and the same shape as the inner peripheral edge of an opening of the spectacle frame. Support for claim 11 is found, for example, at page 5, line 19 - page 6, line 1.

Claim 12 depends from claim 1 and recites that the edging mark is depicted by irradiating the spectacle lens with a laser beam. Support for claim 12 is found, for example, at page 17, line 23 - page 18, line 1.

Further, Applicants propose to cancel claim 6-10.

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It is believed that the proposed amendments place the application in condition for allowance and do not raise any new issues. Upon entry of the proposed amendments, which is respectfully requested, claims 1-5 and 11-12 will be pending in the application.

Claims 3 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claims 1-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as allegedly being unpatentable over Kato (JP 09-99444 A) in view of Logan et al. (US 4,711,035), and further in view of Wood et al. (US 5,053,971). Claims 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Hoya Corp. (JP 2507643 Y2) in view of Yasushi et al. (JP 10-282459 A), and further in view of Wood et al. and Logan et al. Applicants cancel claims 6-10, herein, and traverses the remaining rejections as set forth below.

The amendment to claim 3 overcomes the indefiniteness rejection thereof.

Claim 1 is amended herein to further define the method for producing a spectacle lens to include a step of forming a spectacle lens and at least one step selected from the group consisting of a polishing step, a dyeing step, a hard coat formation step, and an anti-reflection coating formation step, after which the edging mark remains on the spectacle lens. Applicants submit that none of the applied references teach or suggest the “at least one step selected from the group ...” limitation of claim 1. Thus, the applied references, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the method of claim 1.

As discussed in the Office Action, the Examiner cites Kato for the teaching of providing reference marks in the outer periphery of an unfinished lens, which are to be cut off by edging. The Logan et al. reference is cited for the teaching of a step of receiving spectacle frame

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information, and a step of marking an edging mark on the lens indicating a region of the lens remaining after edging, with the marking step being based on the spectacle frame information. The Examiner cites Wood et al. for the teaching of mapping a surface of a lens at a slightly greater radius than the desired finished edge of the lens to avoid creating scratches on the lens. The Examiner asserts that it would have been obvious to have combined the teachings of these references, and that the combination renders claims 1-5 obvious. However, since none of the applied prior art references teach or suggest the aforementioned limitation, claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-5 and 11-12 are believed to be allowable over the prior art.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except for the Issue Fee, for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX
VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 6-10 are canceled.

The claims are amended as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A method for producing a spectacle lens, comprising:

an obtaining step of receiving a spectacle frame information,

a step of forming the spectacle lens; [and]

a marking step of depicting production information of the spectacle lens including an edging mark indicating a region of the lens remaining after an edging matched with an inner peripheral edge of openings of the spectacle frame in the region, to be cut off by the edging, of a surface of the spectacle lens on the basis of the spectacle frame information after the step of forming the spectacle lens; and

after the marking step, at least one step selected from the group consisting of a polishing step, a dyeing step, a hard coat formation step and an anti-reflection coating formation step, after which the edging mark remains on the spectacle lens.
3. (Twice Amended) A method for producing a spectacle lens according to claim [2] 1, wherein said edging mark is an edging line [forming a shape slightly larger than and having the same shape as the inner peripheral edge of an opening of a spectacle frame].
5. (Amended) A method for producing a spectacle lens according to claim [1] 2, further comprising, after said [marking step] at least one step selected from the group consisting of the polishing step, the dyeing step, the hard coat formation step and the anti-reflection coating

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formation step, an edging step for carrying out said edging to cut off the depicted production
information.

Claims 11-12 are added as new claims.